



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Ninth Meeting of the Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area

PRESSURE 9-2018

Riga, Latvia, 10-12 October 2018

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Agenda Item	6 - Measures to reduce nutrient loads
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Submitted by	Secretariat
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Background

HELCOM Drafting Group on Nutrient Recycling Strategy held its first online meeting on 28 September 2018. The Drafting Group discussed and updated the suggestion by Finland regarding the organization of further work on the nutrient recycling strategy (document 6-5) by adding future online meetings of the Drafting Group, XX Baltic Sea Day, and the 10th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region to the work plan. The group also discussed and reviewed a draft vision for the strategy, prepared by Finland. In addition, the Drafting Group discussed an updated provisional programme for the HELCOM Workshop on Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy. A document containing short notes of the first Drafting Group meeting has been circulated to both Agri and Pressure Working Groups.

The document contains the draft vision including alternative wording suggestions (highlighted by track changes) and the updated work plan. The updated provisional programme for the HELCOM Workshop on regional nutrient recycling strategy is attached to this document.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note, provide feedback on the documents and contribute to the work of the workshop on the nutrient recycling strategy.

Draft vision for the Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy

Nutrients are managed optimally-sustainably in all HELCOM countries, enhancing-securing the productivity of agriculture through efficient use of nutrients and cost effective nutrient recycling and minimizing nutrient losleakage to the Baltic Sea environment. Areas of high nutrient concentration/accumulation/areas with nutrient surplus, such as intensive livestock production areas, (sewage in) urban centers and industrial sites, resulting in large amounts of nutrient rich organic residues, are regarded as opportunities, rather than problems, as these residues are utilized for processing ~~Opportunities created by concentration of nutrients—manure in intensive livestock production areas and sewage in urban centers—are utilized for processing~~ and production of safe and economically viable organic-fertilizer products. Nutrient recycling is realized/Nutrients are recycled using best available technologies for the specific conditions/circumstances and aiming for/with focus on/guaranteed/ensuring environmental safety. Regional challenges are solved by applying scientific research and knowledge exchange bringing added value for the whole Baltic region. More/fully independent from nutrient imports.

Work plan for elaborating Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy

Drafting group:

Lead: Finland

Participants: Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Latvia, Poland, Russia, Sweden, PA Nutri, BFFE, CCB, EurEau

Stakeholder involvement

- SUMANU and BSR WATER platforms
- HELCOM/EUSBSR workshops
- Utilization of other related events

2018				2019				2020				2021
I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	
		Work plan										
		Vision										
		Objectives										
								Measures				
		Workshop			Workshop							
		Draft group			Draft group		Draft group		Draft group		Draft group	
	Pressure		Pressure		Pressure		Pressure		Pressure		Pressure	
	Agri		Agri		Agri		Agri		Agri		Agri	
MM	HoD		HoD		HoD		HoD		HoD		HoD	MM

2018

Date	What	Who	Notes
15.-16.5.	Helcom Agri WG	Secretariat / FI	The Meeting agreed that Finland will specify the work plan after the current version has been agreed by HOD 54-2018 and present it at that the first online meeting of the drafting group in September 2018. Finland also agreed to present draft vision to the Strategy at the Workshop in November 2018.
14.-15.6.	Helcom HoD	Secretariat / FI	approved organizing a workshop on manure standards and nutrient recycling back-to-back with the Agri Group dedicated meeting on revision of the Annex III part II on 6-8 November 2018 and welcomed the offer by Poland to host the workshop in Warsaw; // 4.47 The Meeting approved the proposal for the time frame and working method to elaborate the Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy (document 4-7). The Meeting emphasized the need for close cooperation between Agri and Pressure Working Groups on the strategy development. 4.48 The Meeting took note of the position by Germany that the connection to Water Framework Directive should be taken into account when elaborating the strategy and that

			nutrient compensation and recycling of sludge as fertilizer need to be observed.
15.6.	Invitation to join the drafting group	Secretariat	Send to Helcom Pressure and Agri Contacts
June-August	Drafting work plan & vision & planning workshop	FI	
21.8.	Drafting work plan & vision & planning workshop	FI	First version of vision in Tiimeri First version of workshop in Tiimeri
10.9.	Invitations to workshop	Secretariat / PL	Including dates, venue and preliminary programme. Send to Helcom Pressure and Agri contacts and PA Nutri steering committee.
28.9.	Drafting group online meeting	Secretariat / FI + drafting group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft work plan • Draft version of vision • Discussion of workshop agenda
10.-12.10.	Helcom Pressure WG	Secretariat / FI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft version of vision • Draft workshop agenda
7.11.	Workshop	PL / Secretariat / FI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting vision • Creating objectives
8.11.	Helcom Agri dedicated meeting	Secretariat	Workshop outcome
3.-5.12.	Helcom HoD	FI / Secretariat	Presenting vision and draft objectives
13.-14.12.	GRASS in Minsk, Belarus	FI / Secretariat	Forum is organized by CCB, CBSS, WWF BEP % Baltic Slurry Acidi/BSAG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenting the vision of Helcom Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy • Side event/workshop?

2019

March	HELCOM annual meeting		
Week 12	Helcom Agri WG		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft objectives
21-22.3	Baltic Sea Day in St Petersburg		Nutrient recycling is one of the themes
Week 15	Helcom Pressure WG		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft objectives
	Drafting group online meeting	Secretariat/FI + drafting group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing to present the objectives to HOD based on discussion in Agri and Pressure group meetings
12-13.6	EUSBSR Annual Forum in Gdansk		Theme of the forum is circular economy. PA Nutri and Hazard and HELCOM are planning to apply for a seminar.
	Helcom HoD		Presenting objectives
30.9.-1.10.	Sustainable2019.fi EU presidency event: The sustainable transition to a low carbon, climate-resilient circular economy: Creating	FI	Possibility to present the vision/objectives etc. or organize a side event/workshop etc.

	the knowledge base		
	Workshop		Measures
	Helcom Pressure WG		
	Drafting group online meeting	Secretariat/FI + drafting group	
	Helcom HoD		

2020

	HELCOM annual meeting		
	Helcom Agri WG		
	Helcom Pressure WG		
	Drafting group online meeting	Secretariat/FI + drafting group	
	Helcom HoD		Presenting measures
	Helcom Pressure WG		
	Drafting group online meeting	Secretariat/FI + drafting group	
	Helcom HoD		Presenting the strategy



HELCOM Workshop on regional nutrient recycling strategy

7 November 2018, Warsaw, Poland

The HELCOM workshop on regional nutrient recycling strategy is organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Poland and HELCOM in cooperation with the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region Policy Area Nutri. The workshop is aimed for representatives of authorities and research organizations of the Baltic Sea countries, representatives of the European Union, and HELCOM Observers.

Background

The HELCOM Ministerial Meeting, held on 6 March 2018 in Brussels, committed to elaborating by 2020 a Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy that aims for reduced nutrient inputs to and eutrophication of the Baltic Sea and:

- focuses on measures at source rather than end-of-pipe solutions;
- is based on the best available scientific knowledge on sustainable management and processing of nutrients in agriculture by safe recycling of nutrients especially from manure and sewage;
- promotes environmentally safe nutrient recycling in the Baltic Sea region, taking into account principles of circular economy, geographical and socio-economic conditions, as well as spatial distribution of nutrient stocks and their flows, whilst respecting objectives and geographical scales already defined under other legal frameworks;
- gives guidance on risk assessments and solutions to prevent potentially harmful consequences from the application of recycled products and on technological processes of nutrients recycling;
- helps to identify regional challenges, applicability and added value for the whole Baltic Sea region;
- is established with a step-by-step approach and proposes a common vision and objectives for nutrient recycling;

The HELCOM Group on Sustainable Agricultural Practices (Agri group) is leading the work in cooperation with the HELCOM Working Group on Reduction of Pressures from the Baltic Sea Catchment Area (Pressure Working Group). Finland is the lead country and developing the Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy is one of the priorities of the HELCOM chairmanship of Finland 2018 - 2019.

Aim

The aim of the workshop is to discuss the common vision for the Baltic Sea Regional Nutrient Recycling Strategy including the scope of the Strategy with definitions and possible limitations. The experts will also be invited to discuss potential for recycling of nutrients in agricultural and waste water sector based on national data on nutrient flows, discuss drivers and obstacles to close nutrients loop as well as to discuss principles of setting objectives for nutrients recycling.



Provisional programme

7 November 2018

Venue: Room A, Falenty Centrum Szkoleniowo-Konferencyjne (address: al. Hrabaska 4b, 05-090 Raszyn-Falenty)

Time	Activity
9:00 – 10:30	Welcome Introductory presentations: Presenting work plan, vision and definition to elaborate the Strategy for nutrients recycling in agriculture and waste water sector Mapping of nutrients stocks and potential for their recycling in agricultural and waste water management sectors
10:30 – 12:00	Manure & sewage parallel sessions part I: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• vision• drivers and challenges
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 15:00	Manure & sewage parallel sessions part II: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• regional objectives
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 17:00	Common discussion on main findings of the parallel sessions Discussion and conclusions on scope, limitations, timeline and main objectives for the strategy